

GARRETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT – April 2012
By the Board of County Commissioners “Board”

Adventure Sports Center International

The Board discussed administrative matters related to the transition of operations of the ASC. An update on financial and accounting transfer of ownership was presented.

Department of Economic Development

1. Discussion on approved GC Branding Study in cooperation with the GC Chamber of Commerce. The Department of Economic Development will be the lead office for the project.
2. State of MD Department of Business and Economic Development staff visit to the County April 18 and 19.
3. The MD Department of Business and Economic Dev. notified GC that the Co. graduated from the State's One Maryland Program effective April 1, 2012. This means GC businesses are no longer eligible for tax credits and other incentives provided for in the Program.
4. The State Dept. of Business and Economic Development will have a senior staff representative in GC this week.
5. Presentation on how the Economic Dev. implements a plan of action for a prospective business opportunity. A sample package was distributed.

Engineering Department

1. Department was created in July of 2011 and has worked on a number of projects to include Landfill Cell 4 Project, North Hill Bridge Project, Chet Kelly Bridge Replacement, DPU projects, short span bridge on Jasper Riley Rd, Exhibit Hall paving and entrance improvements, GTTC project inspection and final review, Wisp/Visitors Center Trail oversight, County bridge inspection program is underway, and other projects planned and underway.
2. Staff has been consolidated with the exception of 1 engineer with the DPU who is in transition of this move over the next several months.

Department of Facilities and Maintenance

1. The Board discussed the disposition of Bloomington Elementary School specifically a proposal of transfer of ownership to the Bloomington Vol. Fire Dept.
2. The Board approved the transfer of ownership of the former Bloomington Elementary School to the Bloomington Volunteer Fire Department.
3. Discussion on assigning and transferring general custodial work at the Visitor's Center to the GC Chamber of Commerce.

Department of Financial Services

1. The Board reviewed legislative and financial matters relative to the closing of the 2013 Legislative Session of the MD General Assembly. Discussion on funding for the GC Public School System for FY 2013 and 2014 was also included.
2. The Board approved to proceed with the redemption of the \$6.4 million MD Environmental Service Revenue Bond Series 1993 for the GC Landfill.
3. Update on Adventure Sports Center International/DC Development Definitive Agreement.
4. The Board agreed to an abatement of GC real property taxes for ASCI pursuant to the provisions of Section 9-313 of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of MD and the Co.'s subsequent Resolution detailing the requirements and procedures to be followed for the Tax Year 2012. This abatement/waiver has been approved/granted to ASCI in all prior fiscal tax years since the ASCI was started as a 501 (3)(c) nonprofit qualified entity.
5. A FY 2013 Budget review timeline and related issues.
6. Request for funding – Southern Garrett High School After Prom. The Board agreed to an appropriation from the special promotions account of \$50.
7. The Board discussed attending the GC of Commerce Board of Directors Retreat on April 19, 2011 at which the time the Chamber has requested discussion on the appropriation of hotel rental tax revenue.
8. The Board reviewed funding issues relative to the County Airport that was previously presented on April 10, 2012. The Board agreed to FY 2013 funding for Phase I study, design, and planning for the removal of material to improve and maintain safe operations. Estimates of Phase I will be \$250,000 of which \$225,000 (90%) will be Federal Aviation Administration funds, \$12,500 (5%) from MD Aviation Administration, and \$12,500 (5%) from the Co. Phase II and Phase III are planned for FY 2014 and 2015 so the commitment of funds on this date is approved to proceed with all planned phases.
9. Discussion on the designation of hotel rental tax revenue for FY 2013.

10. Briefing on FY 2013 Budget.
11. Discussion and review of historical and projected full time enrollment and wealth related State funding for the GC Public School System.
12. FY 2013 Constant Yield Hearing will be held on May 15, 2012 at Garrett College.
13. To allocate \$500,000 to the GC Public School System for FY 2013. The total appropriation to the GC Public School System for the budget year will be \$25,359,000.
14. The Board agreed to maintain the current real property tax rate of \$0.9900 for Fiscal Year 2013.

Department of Information Technology

1. Discussion on staffing issues and pending requirements.
2. The Board discussed the Department of Economic Development website upgrades and improvements.
3. Mr. Pagenhardt presented a recommendation of appointment of Andrew Sauder as Software Developer with the Department of Information Technology.
4. Request for funding of \$5,000 to complete required upgrades to the Court House security system. The Board approved this funding from contingency funds.

Department of Planning & Land Development

1. The Board conducted the #3 Draft Land Use Management Ordinance Review.
2. The Board was presented with and accepted a petition signed by 39 residents asking that the Board impose "realistic" setbacks or ordinances that would "protect families and homes from a proposed wind farm on Four Mile Ridge and part of Big Savage Mountain".
3. The Board discussed follow-up matters relative to the 3 public work sessions conducted on the Draft Land Use Management Ordinance.
4. The Board conducted a **Public Hearing** to receive public commentary on an application by Linda F. White to establish an Agricultural Land Preservation District. The Board approved the application.
5. The Board reviewed a request from the State of MD DNR to approve the acquisition of development easements for the following parcels of land: a. Hughes Property b. Owens Property c. Mountain Maryland Mineral Property (c. No action of approval needed at this time and negotiations on purchase will be taken under advisement). The Board approved the acquisition of the development easements for a) and b).

Department of Public Utilities (DPU)

David Keffer met with the Board to express his opinion on the Thayerville Water Project (TWP) and specifically his opposition to connection to the system for his residence on Glendale Rd in the Silver Creek Subdivision. Mr. Keffer requested that the TWP end at the Rt 219/Glendale Rd. The Board reviewed this request and agreed that all project requirements have been met and no amendments will be approved. Mr. Keffer will be notified of this decision.

Roads Department

1. The Board met with the Roads Department to review plans for the SavageMan Triathlon and GC Gran Fondo events. The purpose of this session was to evaluate work planned for the forthcoming maintenance season and any impact work may have on the cycling segment of the 2 races.
2. The Board recognized Clifford Moon and Randy DeWitt for their life saving efforts in assisting with the transport of a fellow County Roads employee who required medical attention and subsequent hospitalization.

Miscellaneous

1. The Board has no objection to Derek Bender replacing Willie Lantz on the GC Marcellus Natural Gas Advisory Committee in his role as the MD Extension Agent representative.
2. Bid Award – Contractual Mowing Services. The Board approved bid awards to a number of contractors which are on file with the Purchasing Department. The Garrett County Inmate Work Incentive Program Crew under the Detention Center will be responsible for mowing of a number of sites previously under contract therefore, resulting in substantial cost savings.
3. Bid Award – Single Axle Dump Trucks. The Board approved a bid award to Fyda Freightliner Pittsburg, Inc. for Freightliner, Model IISD, at \$145,695.00 for 6 trucks for a total purchase price of \$874,170.00.
4. Bid Award – Deep Creek Trail. The Board approved a bid to Knieriem Construction, Inc. for a total bid price including alternates of \$77,818.34. The recommendation includes the rejection of add alternates items listed on the bid package. The project is funded from the following sources: \$50,000 Appalachian Regional Commission funding, \$37,000 Natural Recreation Trail Program funding – State Highway Administration, and \$13,000 in County funding.
5. Bid Award – Sidewalk Restoration/Replacement – Frederick A. Thayer III Courthouse. The Board approved a bid award to Thomas & Thomas, LLC for Option B – Replacement a total bid price of \$29,500.00.

6. Mary Callis, Executive Director, Garrett Lakes Art Festival presented the Board with a briefing on the 2012 Season of Events and how GLAF can partner with the County on promotion and event planning.
7. The Board met with Ashish Solanki, Director, MD Aviation Administration; Mr. Kelley requested that the Board approve proceeding with an engineering study to prepare site preparation for additional hangar construction and a purchase of a generator, both of which qualify for Maryland Aviation Administration (5%) and Federal Aviation Administration (90%) funding. (The County would be required to contribute 5%).
8. The Board reviewed a letter from Jeanne Hitchcock, Secretary of Appointment with the Office of the Gov. requesting the submission of a list of 3 nominations for considerations as Regular Member of the GC Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board. The Board determined to advertise for interested persons to submit the application of intent.
9. The Board executed a Proclamation pronouncing May 3, 2012 as "A Day of Prayer in GC".
10. The Board executed a Proclamation pronouncing April 17, 2012 as "Equal Pay Day 2012".
11. Hauling of Refuse and/or Recycled Materials. The Board approved a contract extension to Sunrise Sanitation for an estimated cost of \$135,457.92.
12. Digital Cellular Telephone Services – GC Government. The Board approved a contract extension to US Cellular for an estimated monthly cost of \$2,804.00 per month.
13. Engineering Services – Maple Street Sewer Line Extension. The Board approved a bid award to Keller Engineers, Inc. for a total cost of 4 phases of \$24,700.00.
14. Paula Shortridge with Caring Hearts Adult Day Services presented a briefing and goal to open an adult day care center.
15. The Board met with Cindy Stacy to discuss contractual public relations and media issues. Ms. Stacy is a freelance writer with experience in writing, public and media relations, and marketing projects.